ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and mechanism for allocating storage in a computer network. A storage

5   allocation mechanism is configured to automatically identify and discover paths to

storage which are coupled to a computer network. The identified storage is then selected

for allocation to a host coupled to the computer network. A database describing the

selected storage and paths to the selected storage is created and stored within the host.

Upon detecting a failure of the host, the allocation mechanism is configured to

10   automatically retrieve the stored database and re-map the previously mapped storage to

the host. In addition, the allocation mechanism may check the validity of the database

subsequent to its retrieval. Further, the allocation mechanism may attempt to access the

storage corresponding to the database. In response to detecting the database is invalid, or

the storage is inaccessible, the allocation mechanism may convey a message indicating a

15   problem has been detected.